



MEMORANDUM

TO: Superintendents, Business Managers, Treasurers, Elementary Principals, Curriculum Supervisors, and Charter School Sponsors

FROM: Schauna Findlay, Ph.D., Director of Curriculum and Instruction
Alyson Luther, Director of Response to Instruction; Title III; Title I, C; OIS and Textbook Adoption

DATE: April 25, 2011

SUBJECT: Cursive Writing and the Common Core State Standards

Indiana's Academic Standards for English Language Arts include cursive writing in the 3rd grade. The Common Core State Standards do not include cursive writing at all. Instead, students are expected to become proficient with keyboarding skills. The 2011-12 IDOE Curriculum Map Resources link on the Learning Connection at <https://learningconnection.doe.in.gov/Login.aspx> provides guidance on how to teach a combination of Indiana's Academic Standards and the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts to ensure students are well prepared for both ISTEP+ and the future *online* Common Core assessments.

Since these curriculum map resources do not include cursive writing for 2011-12, schools may decide to continue to teach cursive as a local standard, or they may decide to **stop teaching cursive next year** to focus the curriculum on more important areas. This notice is being sent to help alert those impacted by this decision to coordinate the appropriate actions regarding resources for next year (not ordering cursive workbooks for next year if you will not need them).